AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please amend the paragraph, beginning on line 10, bridging pages 1 and 2, as follows:

--In order to improve processing capacity for a writing/reading request from a host computer, a disk array executes a large number of writing/reading processes (hereinafter, referred to as I/O process) simultaneously. To realize this, it is often the case that the disk array performs multitask processes by using a real time OS and the like on firmware (see Japanese Patent laid-open No 5-287849 and Japanese Patent laid-open No 5-298122, for example). The multitask process is a process in which a plurality of tasks (modules for executing some series of processes) operate independently and, at the same time, a large number of tasks operate, thereby improving a processing capacity. According to this multitask process, since each task ~~executes~~ may execute one I/O process [[and]] or a plurality of tasks can simultaneously execute a given I/O ~~processes~~ process, the rate of I/O processing capacity per unit of time is improved. In general, the multitask process with the real time OS is allowed to execute a plurality of tasks simultaneously by having a control memory area for each task in a local memory.--